

EPIC Wk 13 Protestors and Defenders Part I (1500-1544)

Time Line Chart Color: ORANGE-depicts William of Orange (William and Mary) who successfully revolts against England's Catholic King James II (Glorious Revolution of 1688)

MAIN THEME: Breaking up of Christendom/rise of Protestant Revolution

REVIEW: Renaissance Popes: 1. Julius II (1503-1513): had 3 illegitimate children before becoming Pope; spent time trying to reconquer Papal States by warring against King of France and Holy Roman Emperor; called *warrior pope*. 1506 established Vatican Swiss Guards; patron of arts especially works of Michelangelo (commissioned to paint *Sistine Chapel*; good movie about them-*Agony and the Ectasy*) and Raphael (commissioned to paint Vatican palace); began construction of St. Peter's Basilica; became cardinal by age 13 (nepotism); resided over 1st Lateran Council

Protestant Reformation vs Protestant Revolution: REFORMATION: seeks to take what exists and return it to its original state or make it better. REVOLUTION: seeks to *destroy* that which exists and *replace* with something completely different. Luther, Calvin and others may have sought *reformation* but worked for *revolution*.

FACTORS of Protestant Revolution: 1. Weak Leaders (ecclesiastical abuse, nepotism, absenteeism- leadership resides outside jurisdiction, pluralism-more than one diocese, poor behavior of priest, bishops and even some popes, *vernacular* writings made fun of these immoral lives, loss of respect for Christians and the Church, Luther's issue-selling indulgences

INDULGENCES: *Sin*¹ is "**freewill**" offense against God and we can be forgiven of the **guilt** of that sin in *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)* but there is *temporal* (worldly) **punishment** or justice due for the effect of the sin (**HO#42**) (Ex: Broken window). An indulgence from the Church frees us from this temporal **punishment** due to sin, either a full remission of that sin (plenary indulgence) or a partial indulgence we can receive by doing certain **penitential works** through prayers or by going to a particular place of pilgrimage or participating in other kinds of holy events.

Indulgences and the Church: Indulgence given for donating to build churches-considered a **penitential work** but appeared to be *selling them*-VERY FINE LINE for uninformed Christians.

Invention of Printing Press: helped propel the *Protestant Revolution*; Luther as *prolific writer* used to spread ideas throughout WESTERN Europe (1300 copies to over 1M copies in 6 yrs); Church slow in using technology

LUTHER: Saxon Monk (Charlemagne tried to convert Saxons for 30+), abusive father; conversion was close encounter with lightning bolt, prayed to St Anne for help, entered Augustinian monastery, brilliant student, became Doctor of Theology with focus on Sacred Scriptures; obsessed with his own salvation, believed *sola fide*, we are saved by *faith alone* simply by stating *Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior*; begins to deny teaching of Christ to His disciples and successors; fixation on demonic activity; thought of God as a tyrant; had many physical ailments; egotistical (*I am Dr. Martin Luther, God's own notary and witness of his gospel. I am the Prophet of the Germans. I understand the Scripture a great deal better than the Pope and all his people. Not for 1000 years has God bestowed such great gifts on any Bishop as he has on me. I am not far behind many of the (Church) fathers...*)

John Wycliff: *Sola Scriptura*: Scripture is the *sole authoritative* source of God's divine revelation

Johann Tetzel: Dominican preacher in Germany near Martin Luther; preached indulgences for alms but did not educate people it was a **penitential work**, not freeing someone out of purgatory

LUTHER-95 Theses (HO#43): Luther embarks on **academic discourse for debate**. Written in Latin, not German, as academic exercise. 1. Denounced granting of indulgence in context of donation for money, 2. Questioned authority of Pope (Pope Leo X is pope at time, thought was religious dispute among religious orders as preacher abuses indulgences was Dominican and Luther was Augustinian)

LUTHER-Rome: July 1518 summoned to Rome to be tried; he refused to go; sent Cardinal Cajetan to Luther; meeting went badly, Luther attacks scholasticism of Cardinal and writings of St Thomas Aquinas; Luther refused to recant³

Frederick of Saxony: powerful secular prince of many 300 loosely organized German states and one of only seven who could elect Holy Roman Emperor; protects Luther

Luther's Teachings: Jesus is *shield* between us and God; sacraments are not *transformative*, does not restore relationship with God; grace is like *snow covering a dung hole*; different understanding of *justification* or original sin and relationship with God. Believed Church reform impossible, must be *uprooted*, begin something new, called Church *Whore of Babylon*, Pope is *anti-Christ*. Wrote 3 papers: 1. Appeals to nobility (need German church, separate from Rome), 2. Attack of sacramental structure of Church; Church has *enslaved*, 3. *Treatise of Christian liberty*-justifies faith alone is all needed for salvation
King of England Henry VIII: Wrote *Defense of Seven Sacraments* after reading Luther's writings. He was designated (as were all of his successors up to current Queen of England) granted title *Defender of the Faith* by the Pope. Wanted to rid German people of Luther; called meeting of Parliament (Diet of Worms 1521), brands him as *heretic*.

Luther's demise: Kidnapped by his protector, secular prince Frederick, and placed in hiding; begins his translation of Bible into German; incites rebellion of ordinary people against nobility; churches/art destroyed, profaned the Eucharist; nobles concerned things out of control; Protestants/Catholics unite to stop rebellion; nobles want Luther to stop; Luther publishes pamphlet and by end of 1525 revolution was over. Estimated 130,000 peasants killed throughout Germany as a result of the rebellion. Luther marries ex-nun and has six children.

Sacking of Rome: South Italy-Imperial troops of Charles V sack Rome; Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and French King Francis I wanted control of Northern cities; leads to major split between Protestants and Catholics

Protestant Revolution: Word *Protestant* comes from a desire to abolish the Mass.

Confession of Augsburg: Protestants outline their beliefs: Condemns 1. Celebration of Mass, 1. Containment of confession, 3. Monastic vows, 4. Priestly celibacy, 5. Affirms justification by faith alone *sola fidei*, 6. Denies Transubstantiation

War in Germany: Charles' decrees send Germany into 117 yr. war; (1450) most of Germany is Lutheran

Luther's Attacks on Jews: Luther later attacks Jews, writes *Jews and their Lies* (8pt plan to rid Germany of Jews-convert them or expulse them; destroy their schools, home, forbid rabbis to teach, place them into forced labor if stay in country; "*treat them like mad dogs*"; IMPACT of his *antisemitism* extended into the 20th century with the Third Reich and Adolph Hitler. Important to know this history.

NOTE: Luther was passionate *Semite* and believed in ABSOLUTE obedience to political authority; wrote final pamphlet (March 1545), stating Rome founded by the devil, "*I would like to curse the Pope and a supporter so that thunder and lightning would strike them hellfire, burn them, the plague, syphilis, epilepsy, V. Leprosy, carbuncles and all manners of diseases attack them*"

Luther's death and after math: February of 1540, suffers stroke, dies. While voice of *Protestant Revolution*, John Calvin took up the cause and expanded into Europe

¹**1263** By Baptism *all sins* are forgiven, original sin and all personal sins, as well as all punishment for sin.⁶⁶ *In those who have been reborn nothing remains that would impede their entry into the Kingdom of God, neither Adam's sin, nor personal sin, nor the consequences of sin, the gravest of which is separation from God.* **1264** Yet certain temporal consequences of sin remain in the baptized, such as suffering, illness, death, and such frailties inherent in life as weaknesses of character, and so on, as well as an inclination to sin that Tradition calls *concupiscence*, or metaphorically, "the tinder for sin" (*fomes peccati*); since *concupiscence* "is left for us to wrestle with, it cannot harm those who do not consent but manfully resist it by the grace of Jesus Christ."⁶⁷ Indeed, "an athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules."⁶⁸

Notes:

⁶⁶ Cf. Council of Florence (1439): DS 1316.

⁶⁷ Council of Trent (1546): DS 1515.

⁶⁸ 2 Tim 2:5.

²**HERESY: Jan Hus:** Czech religious reformer: Influenced by writings of Englishman John Wycliff

